

Jumpstart to Higher Education

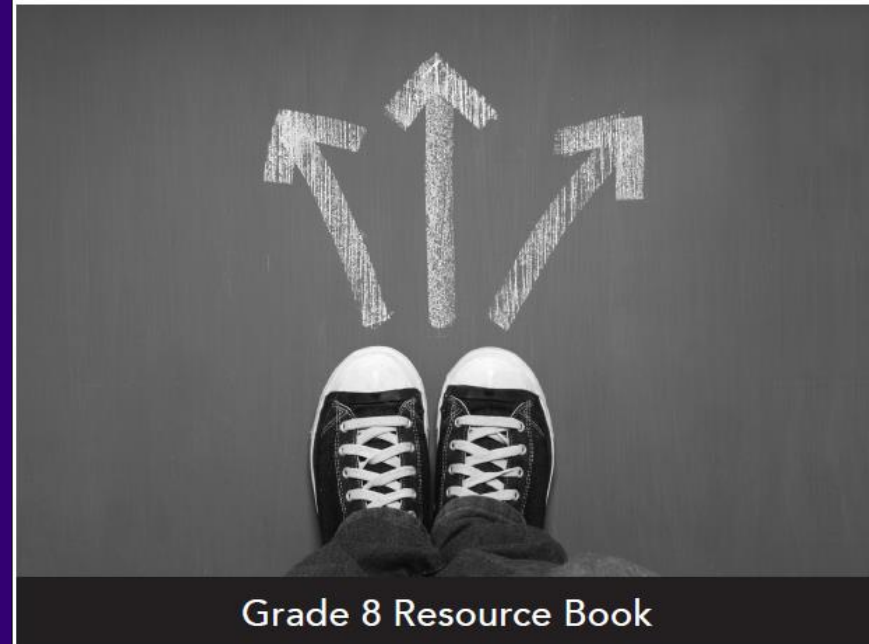
A PSE Literacy Program for Grade 7 and 8 students

**Building Bridges: Fostering Partnership
Between K-12 and Postsecondary**

PSE Literacy Program

- Aligns with the “Creating Pathways to Success” initiative by the Ontario Ministry of Education
- Launched in 2014 and developed by a former principal
- Delivered in Waterloo Region and expanding to the Hamilton and Brantford Communities
- Targets socially and economically disadvantaged schools and communities
- Sponsored by donors and foundations
- Evaluated by Laurier’s Centre for Community, Research, Learning and Action (CCRLA)
- Visit 20+ schools reaching 3000+ students

to higher education
jumpstart



Name: _____

School: _____

Class: _____ HR Teacher _____

Demystify the Pathways

Describe and discuss the educational pathways available to students after high school (Grade 8)

- Workplace
- Apprenticeship
- College
- University

Use games and videos to help students identify the pathways – focus on skills, interests, values and personality traits (Grade 7)

Demystify the Pathways – Grade 7

Workplace

Short Order Cook



Roofer



Crossing Guard



Flight Attendant



School Bus Driver



Shipper/Receiver



Telemarketer



Car Detailer



1

2

Apprenticeship

Cabinet Maker



Brick Mason



Hairstylist



Chef



Electrician



Car Painter



Car Mechanic



Welder



8

4

College

Computer Repair



Interior Design



Construction Management



Paramedic



Registered Nurse



Firefighter



Radio/TV Producer



Child Youth Worker (CYW)



3

6

University

Physiotherapist



Veterinarian



City Planner



Computer Scientist



Pediatrician



Anthropologist



Speech Therapist



Planetary Scientist



7

5

Funding PSE...

Explain how students can pay for post-secondary education

We discuss budgets and part-time work

We highlight how to make the most of their volunteer experiences in high school

Key strategies to engage with students in the K-12 to PSE

- Ensure materials are grade appropriate
- Modify for different types of learners
- Consider language barriers
- Use games, activities, humour or video clips to engage students

Key strategies to engage with students in the K-12 to PSE

- Encourage students to work in groups (students will realize they are not alone in not knowing PSE information)
- Create a take away to share with parents/guardians
- Provide teachers with materials to continue the conversation

Evolution of Partnerships

A gradual process...

- a few schools – credibility is established
- Word of mouth – leads to program growth
- Board event with guidance counsellor community
- Media coverage
- Conferences and Organizations
- Partnerships with other foundations

Initial Challenges & Obstacles with Partnerships

- Collective Agreements
- Not all educators are on board
- Time – people are busy
- Finding the right person to connect with at the Board

Advice for other organizations

Teacher “Buy-In” and “Credibility” are critical for success

- Hire an experienced teacher or principal
- Hire Bachelor of Education graduates for delivering your program
- Align the work/program with Ministry of Ontario Education guidelines
- Create resources materials for teachers to continue the conversation

Evaluate and Share results

- Impact and Accountability – donors expect it
- Continuous improvement – feedback helps to improve the program
- Identify trends and opportunities

QUESTIONS

GAIL FORSYTH
DIRECTOR: TEACHING, LEARNING AND RETENTION